

In some cases, assistance is also given directly to individuals.

Steps have also been taken for undertaking research and development in this industry. KVIC has set up Palm Products Research Institute in Madras where training facilities are provided to the artisans, supervisors and other workers.

SHRI N. DENNIS : It is a traditional rural industry providing employment and income without investment. This industry is facing declining trend and gradually perishing due to its hazardous nature and lack of encouragement and patronage by the Government of India. Thus those who depend on the industry live below the poverty line. If this industry perishes, the consequences would be creation of several socio-economic problems and if developed, it would solve many problems. May I know whether a separate Board or Commission would be constituted specially for the development and production of palmyra products and for the solution of socio-economic problems of those who are engaged in this industry? What is the total financial assistance disbursed to the artisans annually and the number of beneficiaries thereon?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : I totally disagree with the hon. Member when he says that the industry is declining. The production during the Fifth Plan was worth Rs. 19.85 crores and employment 3.72 lakhs. In the Sixth Plan it has increased to Rs. 40.53 crores and 6.25 lakh employment. In the Seventh Plan it is estimated that there will be a production worth Rs. 63 crores and 7 lakh employment. As far as formulation of a separate commission is concerned, we have no proposal at hand. Recently we have received a representation from workers of manufacturing units in Tamil Nadu. We have referred the matter to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for its comments. A decision will be taken after receiving the comments from them.

SHRI N. DENNIS : Palmyra products like fibre, leaves and other palmyra products have tremendous export potentialities.

They have to be protected with enhanced loans, subsidies, equipment, firewood and by implementing beneficial measures like housing, pension and cash benefit relief measures to the victims of accidents. May I know whether long term policies would be evolved for the development of this industry and palmyra workers. The hon. Minister has said about the research work. May I know the details of the research work and the result achieved thereon? Will the research be conducted for preservation of neera, jaggery and other palmyra products and to produce dwarf varieties of trees as in the case of coconut?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : A research institute of KVIC is functioning at Madras. A number of research programmes are being undertaken in this Institute—for example, to improve the recovery of sugar from palm syrup, soft drinks from palm syrup, etc. To remove the drudgery involved in palmyra tree climbing, an improvised mechanical device has been fabricated by the Institute.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

MR. SPEAKER : There is a short notice question. Dr. Datta Samant—not present.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Assistance to States for infrastructure facilities in district courts

*847. **SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the inadequacy of infrastructure for district courts in the States like Additional District and Subordinate Courts, construction of court buildings and residential quarters for judicial-officers of those courts; and

(b) the steps, if any, taken in this regard during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) Administration of justice in District and Subordinate Courts primarily concerns the State Governments and as such infrastructure like Additional District and Subordinate Courts, construction of Court

buildings and residential quarters to Judicial Officers is provided by them. In addition, the Central Government has given financial assistance by way of grants-in-aid under Article 275 of the Constitution as recommended by the Seventh Finance Commission during 1979-84 for upgradation of standards of judicial administration. Statement showing details is given below.

Statement

Release of grants as recommended by the 7th Finance Commission during 1979-84 for upgradation of standards of judicial administration.

Name of the State	Total amount released based on the recommendations of the 7th Finance Commission (Rs. in lakhs)	Approval given for		
		Setting up of Additional courts (No.)	Construction of court buildings (No.)	Construction of Residential quarters. (No.)
1. Andhra Pradesh	83.97	19	19	19
2. Assam	165.23	41	41	41
3. Bihar	487.88	133	133	133
4. Himachal Pradesh	7.82	2	2	2
5. Jammu & Kashmir	3.92	2	—	—
6. Kerala	5.34	1	1	1
7. Madhya Pradesh	35.83	7	7	7
8. Manipur	27.37	7	5	5
9. Nagaland	70.00	—	700 Village court buildings	—
10. Orissa	92.88	21	21	21
11. Rajasthan	202.46	48	48	48
12. Tamil Nadu	15.64	4	2	2
13. Tripura	60.46	12	11	11
14. Uttar Pradesh	591.78	132	132	132
15. West Bengal	124.42	29	60	60
	1982.00	458	482 + 700	482
			Village Court Buildings	